

# Contemporary Christmas Is Appropriate For 1988

Rev. William S. Falls

What does Christmas mean to you? To some people it means hard work. The stores will be crowded with shoppers, the post office will overflow mail, the trains, buses and planes will carry record crowds. To some people Christmas will mean a visit home. Surely this is the best time of year to be with loved ones. To many it will be a time of sadness

were the gifts?

They brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. Each gift was a gift of value. We know more about Jesus than they did. He has done more for us than He did for them. Are we giving ourselves? Are we giving

our time and talents and our money to Him? This matter of giving reached a climax on the cross. Look at Jesus as he dies here. What is He doing? He is giving--

*"The zeal to shop and buy gifts at one time was a pleasure, now it has become a burden and a chore then and seemingly must be done...."*

Rev. William S. Falls

because of loved ones. To many it will be a time of sadness because of loved ones who have gone from this world to another. To many others, it will mean revelry. They will connect this most precious day with the use of drugs and liquor. But to many others, this day will mean nothing. On this day, this celebration becomes more of an interference.

The zeal to shop and buy gifts at one time was a pleasure, now it has become a burden and a chore that seemingly must be done to satisfy people that you don't care for or know. The moving through the crowds and listening to the complaints of not only children but adults as well only comes to remind us that this is 1988 and we are not the same kind of people we were even ten years ago. As we look at the Christmas story, we find the wise men coming and bringing gifts to Jesus. We sing about these wise men. In the various Christmas picture, we see the wise men bring their gifts to the stable. And what


giving all the He has for you and me. You and I would be on our way to hell if He hadn't given himself for our redemption. Yet we look at our church attendance record and find that hundreds of our members have not given one hour to Jesus in the past year. We look at the financial records and find that hundreds have not given him one penny in the past year. Is that right? Must Jesus give all and we give nothing in return?

In this contemporary society that we share with this most magnificent of occasions we have come to the vague realization that this occasion has become a passing celebration. Is it hard for us to grip the real meaning of Christmas? Let us keep in mind that this Jesus is still the same. He has never changed. He still provides all our needs, He still hears all of our prayers. Can we then forget our own selfishness, the liquor, the drugs, our own arrogant hypocrisy, can we turn away from today and look for tomorrow through yesterday?

Surely if you are a Christian you love the Lord, a break from the ordinary to the mystery of the birth on the Silent Night must be a part of your life. Even in these days and times Christmas still carries real value and true meaning to the one who believes and also to those who don't believe. It means that God loves them with all of His heart. It means that God regarded our lost condition and done something about it. It means that God has given the best Christ-


mas gift that even God can give. It means that our Savior is born--born to set an example with His life--born to die for our sins--born to be raised for His justification--born to ascend on high to make intercession for us--born to give us the hope of His coming again to gather all of His believers unto Himself. Christmas means that we have a companion for life--a friend in the very hour of death.

YES, CHRISTMAS MEANS EVERYTHING.



**A CLEANER WORLD**  
YULE TIDE  
Robert L. Weavil

STORES  
#147 2330 Patterson Ave. Winston Salem N.C. 27105 (919) 723 3910  
#141 3115 Carver School Rd. Winston Salem N.C. 27105 (919) 724 3688  
#167 318 W. 4th St. Winston Salem N.C. 27102 (919) 761-0022



On The First Day of Christmas  
My True Love Gave To Me A...

**P. Galloway  
and  
Robert Galloway**

**Do Not  
Clip  
This Coupon**

There's No Need To — Just Patronize  
Those Businesses That Advertise With Us.  
The Area's First and Most Complete  
Black Tabloid.

**Phoenix**

**GIFT GIVING  
MADE Easy**

The Squires

Gift Certificate!

The Squires

GIVE GIFT CERTIFICATE!

Happy Holidays

**Jimmy The Greek Kitchen**

2001 North Cherry Street

Owners: Gus Hodges, Spiros Zivliakis



Wishing You A Sparkling Holiday Season and  
A Bright New Year

**The AC Phoenix  
and Staff**